



## **Sociology Test Series**

### **Sectional Test - 4**

**Ques 1. Examine the intersections of sexual division of labour with other forms of labour division, such as domestic work and caregiving responsibilities, and analyze the cumulative effects on gendered inequalities and work-life balance.**

**Ques 2. Investigate the impact of paternity leave on challenging traditional gender norms and promoting shared caregiving responsibilities within families.**

**Ques 3. Analyze the relationship between descent and social identity formation.**

**Ques 4. Discuss the factors that contribute to the persistence or decline of stem families in contemporary society.**

**Ques 5. Analyze the sociological dynamics of nation-building processes,**

**(All the Questions shall be answered in not more than 150 words)**

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Answer Question in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit for each in the Parenthesis.  
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Q 1

Division of labour is a social fact as per Durkheim, that divides the work according to the skill, ability, sex etc. Parsons, Tizer & Fox have justified the gendered division of labour as per functionalist & biological perspectives.

Intersection of DOL w/ other labour division

- 1) Sylvia Walby is her 'Increasing Patriarchy' highlighted how patriarchal structure is maintained by sexual division of labour.  
(eg) unpaid work of women at home - carework is not counted.
- 2) Karuna Ahmad: Paid employment is discriminatory against gender as they face exploitation due to wage inequalities.
- 3) pink collarisation - clustering of women in low paid works. (eg) Catering, Caregiving etc.
- 4) Ann Oakley: In her book 'Housewife' dealt

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w) Industrialization & link to branding of women as 'housewife' - to do domestic work & social

Inequalities faced-

5) Dual responsibility -

women working outside are expected to do household chores as well. claimed W Young. while men don't help-

6) Also Cumulative effects

1) Reminization of poverty (Ruth Lister)

2) Reminization of agriculture & informal sector.

3) Veronica Beechey found exploitative work conditions women face as most of them engaged as 'Reserve army of labour'

4) Domestic chores along w/ outside work have grave impact on their physical, mental health.

thus, need for gender sensitive work policy that ensures their needs & eliminate the 'lagged adaptation' of men-

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Q2

Traditional norms & responsibilities assigned to a particular gender is due to society & culture as Ann Oakley commented that while sex is biological, gender is socially constructed.

⊕ Maternity leaves are generally given to 'mothers' due to their 'biological needs'. However, recent incidents of paternity leaves have challenged traditional norms.

eg) By celebrities - Virat Kohli, Mark Zuckerberg etc

## Challenges

① Against the biological & intellectual perspective -

Tiger & Fox, through their 'biogrammar of human' theory justified that women are supposed to be 'caregivers' & men - 'breadearners'

② Parsons - instrumental role assigned to men is also in conflict with such practices.

③ This is also challenging the cultural norms of 'domestic sphere' being women's responsibility alone

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as per patrischal perspective of many religion.

As Jina Chakravarty argued that women's primary role as a mother, can also be shared by father now.

5) Promotion of shared responsibilities is a sign of weaning of "lagged adaptation" (geeshung)

Yet, there are issues

- ① Maternity penalty that women face in employment.
- ② Their biology is a reason for their discrimination & exploitation (Shulamith Firestone)
- ③ Informal sector is insensitive to such social changes.

Way forward

- ① Need wide scale awareness about shared (father-mother) role for better socialization.
- ② That, woman's role is not all that important in socialization of child & child care as found by Bettleheim in Kibbutz study.

Thus, these social changes indeed challenge the gender inequality norms in society.

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Q3

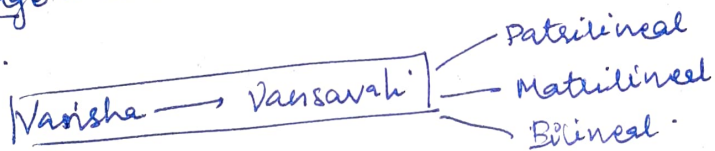
Descent is one's relationship with a larger social group thus forming a social identity. It is related to same ancestors.

(eg) Brahmins trace their descent to salut Vashitra.

How social identity formation

1) Cause the link b/w wider group on fathers & mothers side.

2) lineage is drawn in various ways based on this.



3) Descents are drawn from various sources -

- Unilineal - descent along a single line.  
(eg) India → patrilineal (father's side)
- Duolineal • Ambilineal
- Parallel descent

4) Descent groups participate <sup>in</sup> rituals & ceremonies.

(eg) birth, marriage.

5) One's caste identity inherited from descent.

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- 6) Social & economic cooperation among kins of same descent.
- 7) Inheritance, religious, personal laws are based on descent.
- 8) One's roles & responsibilities towards others & society decided by descent.
- 9) Moreover, descent ~~com~~ groups come as a unified group in times of feuds & fights.

## Critique

- 1) May promote Inherited Inequality like Patriarchy
- 2) Caste discrimination & practice of untouchability
- 3) More value to ascribed identity in an achievement based modern society.
- 4) May convert to caste groups.

Hence descent & lineage are crucial part of system of kinship & family.

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Q4

Family is a cradle of socialization.

It is a universal social institution, present from primitive to modern society as per Peter Murdoch

## Decline in stem families

- 1) Stem families are the extended families that are characteristic of traditional societies or Gemeinschaft as given by Tonnies
- 2) One is part of larger kinship system in such families. However, this trend has declined in modern societies (Gesellschaft).

## Reasons / Factors

- 1) Industrialization  
Parsons gave the structural differentiation of society in that modern society constitutes Nuclear families due to functional link ~~of~~ with economic system prevailing → geographical mobility
- 2) Education & social mobility  
led to migration to other countries & cities thus, weaker bonds with the kins & family.



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## 3) Individualism

Feminists argue that traditional joint households are the 'dens of patriarchy' thus, individuality of women are curbed.

4) Due to more opportunities & need for expressing oneself, system families & traditions associated are left behind.

## Critique

1) William Goode argued that industrialization is not a reason for decline

2) Eugene Litwak gave "Modified extended family" that come together occasionally.

(eg) marriage, namkaran.

3) Science - like digital technology has brought family & kins closer. (eg) During COVID-19.

4) Am Shah argued that it's the household that goes through 'progression & regression', families remain connected.

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Q 5

Nation is a community of sentiments,  
made up of emotions, passion etc according to Weber.  
Its a metaphysical entity having emotional unity.

Sociological dynamics of nation building

- ① Thomas Ericksen, argued that ethnic identities get converted to 'national identity'. #
- ② Anthony Smith also said that Germany & Italy had ethnic identity to form separate feeling of nationalism.
- ③ State is not an emotional unity, its only a political apparatus having
  - sovereignty
  - collective will
  - population
  - territory.
- ④ To make state into a nation, citizenship is accorded to the people that builds the emotional integration needed.
- ⑤ Citizenship strengthens the process of nation building. JH Marshall talked about the rights given to a member of a nation-state & duties towards the nation.

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- Social citizenship - welfare.
  - Civil & Political citizenship - liberty, right to vote
- ⑥ However, these may vary for different sections like women, poor & Dalits (Gail Omvedt)
- ⑦ Thus, Nation binds the citizens into a single emotional & cultural unity → basis of nationalism.
- ⑧ New forms of nationalism emerging like -
- Civic nationalism (<sup>religion</sup> Robert Bellah) → based on regard for national events, freedom fighters & symbols
  - ISRO nationalism (recent years seen during launch of Mom, Chandrayaan etc)
  - Sport nationalism. eg cricket, Hockey world cup.

## Critique

- ① Marxist: Class will eclipse nation as a concept.
- ② liberalist: globalization & modernization weakening 'nation'

Hence, nation-building is a long, continuous process that goes on in a particular society to establish traditions, culture & polity.